



MINUTES OF THE 2019 IEEE NUCLEAR AND PLASMA SCIENCES SOCIETY (NPSS) NUCLEAR  
MEDICAL AND IMAGING SCIENCES COUNCIL (NMISC) SPRING TELECONFERENCE

DATE: THURSDAY, MAY 30, 2019, 6:00-8:00 GMT+9

LOCATION: ONLINE

***Voting Members:***

*Executive*

Jae Sung Lee (Chair)

Roger Fulton (Vice Chair)

Paul Marsden (Past Chair; 2019 NSS-MIC General Chair, Awards-Fellows Sub-Committee Chair)

*Term ending 2019:*

Dimitra Darambara (2019 MIC Chair)

Cristina Lois

Charalampos (Harry) Tsoumpas

Larry Zeng

Glenn Wells

*Term ending 2020:*

Kira Grogg (absent)

Mathieu Hatt (absent)

Nicolas Karakatsanis

Andre Kyme

Christopher Lerche

*term ending 2021:*

Andrew Goertzen

George El Fakhri



Nicola Belcari

Taiga Yamaya

Chuck Melcher

***Non Voting Members:***

Steve Meikle (MIC 2018)

Lorenzo Fabris (GC 2020)

Ikuo Kanno (GC 2021)

Adam Alessio (Adcom representative)

Vesna Sossi (Adcom representative)

Merry Keyser (Valentin T. Jordanov Award Committee Chair)

Dimitris Visvikis (TRPMS Editor in Chief)

Emilie Roncali (Secretary)

1. Introduction.
2. Review and adoption of agenda. Unanimously accepted.
3. Approval of minutes from AGM 11/16/2018. Unanimously accepted.
4. Member roster & Chair's report to NMISC. Delivered by Jae Sung Lee.
  - 4.1. Reviewed member roster and positions. Welcome newly elected members (term starting January 1st, 2019):  
*Nicola Belcari, George El Fakhri, Andrew Goertzen, Chuck Melcher, Taiga Yamaya*
  - 4.2. Reviewed organizational structure of NPSS (RISC, NMISC, JOS, JES plus other technical committees). Described NMISC website and reviewed list of NMISC executive officers.
  - 4.3. Incoming conferences: 2019 Manchester, UK; 2020 Boston, USA; 2021 Yokohama, Japan; 2022 Europe, 2023 USA; 2024 Rest of the world. Reviewed the role of the JOS and JES, which oversee the site selection.
  - 4.4. NPSS Student paper award is being renamed after Chris Thompson. NMISC and NPSS AdCom approved it; Chris's family approved the use of his name for the student award. Naming is approved by the Technical Activities Board (TAB) Awards Committee. It rewards oral or poster presentations from MIC (\$500 x2)
  - 4.5. New mid-career award from 2019: Medical Imaging Technical Achievement Award
    - Single annual award (US\$2,000, a plaque), to fill the gap between Hoffman and Hasegawa
    - 8 - 25 years after obtaining the highest degree



#### 4.6. New paper awards

- IEEE Transactions on Radiation and Plasma Medical Sciences (TRPMS) Best Paper Award
- IEEE Transactions on Nuclear Science (TNS) Best Paper Award
- Approved

#### 5. Secretary's report. Delivered by Emilie Roncali

- Reminded members the role of the secretary's report: Informing and/or reminding NMISC members of motions that occurred throughout the year. No non-routine motion this year.
- Reminded members that the secretary position is now appointed by chairperson for 2 years, starting in an alternating year as the new chair. Emilie Roncali currently assumes that role until 12/31/20 for a second term.

#### 6. Status of 2019 NMISC election of new members. Delivered by Emilie Roncali.

- There are five positions to fill, and 8 candidates were presented this year. Applications were both spontaneous and nominations.
- Adam Alessio is elected AdCom representative for a 4-year term 2019-2022.

#### 7. Sub-committee reports.

##### 7.1. Awards-Fellows Sub-Committee. Delivered by Paul Marsden.

- Note: no female awardee for Hoffman. NMISC needs a person/committee in charge of diversity matters?  
**Action item:** Initiate basecamp discussion on how to proceed to address diversity concerns.
- Hoffman award has frequent re-nominations, which implies that some nominees are waiting to be awarded. Perhaps we should change the system to renew the pool of applicants. Should we also improve the website solicitation?

##### 7.2. Jordanov Award Report. Delivered by Merry Keyser, Chair of Jordanov Award Committee.

- 107 Applicants with 8 rejected for lack of advisor name.
  - Currently waiting on the abstract submission results
  - There will be 8 recipients
- One issue is that in compliance with the GDPR (European Union General Data Protection Regulation), students are now not required to provide some information that was used to justify diversity. For example, 51% of applicants decided to not disclose information regarding gender, affiliation etc and this will make difficult to collect the information that supporting societies want to see to ensure that the awards are distributed to a diverse pool of students.  
**Action item:** recommend to PIs to explain to students why it is important to disclose information.

#### 8. Report on NPSS AdCom activities. Delivered by Vesna Sossi.

- Reviewed financial aspects item, clarified that conferences have a 15% conference fee target.



- Initiatives are very important: \$355k spent in 3 projects in 2018
- Treasurer's report.
  - Next conferences will have a preliminary budget
  - Publications from periodicals are progressing.
- Update on GDPR compliance & personal details on conference website.
  - Some information is now no longer allowed to be collected, which may create issues regarding diversity stats
  - Open access (OA) / ban on hybrid journals. IEEE is currently exploring the creation of Gold OA journals, flipping hybrids to 10% gold journals.
  - Current situation is not clear, how the switch to gold OA will be implemented is unclear, so the IEEE will continue to have a "wait and see" approach as of March 2019.
- Membership concerns:
  - Initial enrollment is good however there is a drastic drop in renewal, which highlights the challenges in showing the benefits of the membership. The breakdown of membership by gender also explains why the awards do not have receive a gender-balanced pool of applications. Female NPSS membership is <12% with student NPSS members being 29% female, and regular members being only 7.9% female, and senior members 6% female.

9. Society sponsored journals. Presentation shared on basecamp by Dimitris Visvikis.

## 10. Conferences

10.1 2018: MIC – Sydney Delivered by Steve Meikle.

- Expected return will be around 15% ~ US \$285k.
- Submitted papers: 585; Orals: 122; Posters: 445; Rejected: 38 (6.5%). Total participants: 1889. MIC and NSS attendance increased (+14%, +10% respectively); RTSD decreased by 14%.

10.2 2019 NSS/MIC – Manchester. Delivered by Paul Marsden.

- Organization is on track, abstract submission was as high as usual and did not seem to be affected by BREXIT.
- Got sponsorship - £50k from Mayor of Manchester; \$10k NIH; £10k UKRC. Total sponsorship from 4 UK universities.



- Abstract review period will be completed by May 31st, then there is a narrow window for program building and decision.
- Raised the question in AOB to have a NPSS representative at all conferences to respond to potential safety concerns and incidents, as well as providing attendees a code of conduct. NSS/MIC is overall very safe and this action is not prompted by an incident report rather by attendee requests.

#### 10.3 2020 NSS/MIC – Boston. Delivered by Lorenzo Fabris

- Poster is ready to be shown in Manchester and the website will be launched in early Fall.
  - Deputy GC/Conference Coordinator: Ralf Engels
  - Sara Pozzi (University of Michigan) NSS Chair
  - Georges El Fakhri (Harvard, Boston) MIC Chair; Deputy Chair: Ramsey Badawi (UC Davis). NMISC member Kira Grogg has provided strong support on MIC side, and Louisa Kasdon as well on the entertainment and catering.
  - There will be no companion tour committee and local tour organizers will be solicited instead. The goal is to free the general committee from that matter.
  - Questions:
    - Will there be live streaming, either in real time or for on-demand access if permission is obtained from speakers.
    - Conference record will be planned in a traditional way. **Action item:** initiate basecamp discussion on how to improve the conference record publishing to relieve the burden of the committee.

#### 10.4 2021 NSS/MIC – Yokohama. Delivered by GC Ikuo Kanno

- Kyoto University will be host
- Construction of convention center on schedule

#### 11. Joint Oversight Sub-Committee (JOS). Delivered by Andrew Goertzen on behalf of Alberto DelGuerra.

- The JOS has been working towards selecting the site 4 years in advance, which was achieved by visiting multiple sites in the last 2 years. The goal is to have the 2023 site recommended by the next NSS/MIC conference in Manchester.
- 2022: Milan has been chosen and approved by NMISC
- 2023: deadline for submission of proposals was end of April. Six proposals were received: Baltimore, Cancun, San Francisco (2 venues), San Jose and Vancouver. The recommendation to site visit San Francisco, San Jose and Vancouver has been forwarded to JES for approval. Site visits will be done by two teams in the first two weeks of August.
- 2024: Rest of the world. Status of Canada has changed from “rest of the world” to “North America”. Need to assess how this can affect the location of the conference outside/inside the US for more than 6 years.

#### 12. AOB Jae Sung Lee/ All



- Presentations will be posted on basecamp upon agreement of the presenters. It will be useful for members who could not attend the AGM
- Main item is time and length of the AGM. Should we change the format? Suggestions:
  - Provide a “new member handbook” reviewing the NPSS structure so that we can take this item of the agenda.
  - Open a basecamp discussion prior to AGM to identify and then select 1-2 important topics that will be discussed at the face-to-face meeting (other topics can be discussed on basecamp). The agenda would be consented before the meeting, which would also save some time. **Action item:** Emilie to open that discussion on basecamp prior to the AGM in Manchester.
  - Changing the AGM time: could be moved to Tuesday night during the RISC meeting. **Action item:** NMISC chair to discuss with RISC chair whether the overlap is an issue to attend the meetings. **Action item:** Emilie to initiate basecamp discussion regarding scheduling the meeting on Tuesday night